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Around the World

Desai Obtains Ban On Hersh Book in India

NEW DELHI, July 13 (UPI) — Former Prime Minister Morarji R. Desai obtained a temporary ban in India today against an American author's book that says Mr. Desai was once a paid agent for the Central Intelligence Agency.

"The Price of Power: Kissinger in the Nixon White House" by Seymour Hersh describes Mr. Desai as a "star performer" for the C.I.A.

Mr. Desai denied the allegation in the book that he was paid \$20,000 a year by the C.I.A. beginning with President Johnson and continuing into the years of President Nixon's Administration, describing it as "sheer madness." He has filed a \$5 million damage suit in the United States.

Mr. Desai, 87 years old, sought an injunction from the Bombay high court to prevent the importing, distribution, marketing and sale in India of the book, the Press Trust of India said. After hearing Mr. Desai's lawyer and Indian book distributors state their cases, Judge Sujata Manoh set another hearing for Aug. 1.

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